



2008219.01

**BEREA CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT  
NEW ELEMENTARY SCHOOL**

**Tuesday, May 5, 2009**

**In Attendance**

J. Grosse .....Business Manager  
R. King ..... GPD Associates  
M. Salopek ..... GPD Associates  
K. Cicen ..... The Albert M. Higley Co.  
Planning Committee ..... Per Sign-In Sheet

**Distribution**

All in Attendance

The following is a brief list of items discussed:

- Following the input from the previous meeting, GPD had revised the site layout option #5 to reflect some modifications for the buses. Discussion points from review of this included:
  - The bus drivers had visited the Lake Cable Elementary in Jackson Township and viewed a similar operation. It had been noted that all students board the buses at the same time and the buses all leave at the same time. For this reason it was thought that the buses closer to the building are better than away from it. However, being away does provide some space for the Special Ed buses against the sidewalk.
  - It is noted that 14 buses need to be provided for.
  - R. King also showed that the parking against the street had been enlarged by about 10 vehicles and the large lot accordingly reduced in size.
- R. King also presented a building zoning diagram for discussion (see further below) as well as a diagram of a different restroom layout which could be used in conjunction with an open teaming area.
- Report-backs from the trips to Fairview Park and Olmstead Falls school visits included:
  - 2-story was preferred to single-story.
  - Special Ed. rooms that had the movable walls were good;
  - The observation room between the 2 Special Ed. rooms at Fairview Park was good but should have had access from the corridor instead;
  - Lockers in the hallways for the older students was a good feature;



- The second story of the Library was good although the Library was probably small for a large student enrolment;
  - The glassed-in area overlooking the Cafeteria was a nice feature. The openness of the Cafeteria to the corridor was also liked and did not seem to have posed a noise factor on adjacent classrooms;
  - Location of the heat-pumps at floor level is better for maintenance than in the ceilings;
  - A storage room outside of the classroom is a good feature. Some thought that a book-room was desirable;
  - Both schools apparently had colored concrete in the Art Rooms and this was well-liked;
  - The colors at Fairview Park felt welcoming although the halls felt impersonal and lacked display of student art etc.;
  - Olmstead Falls had wanted more moveable walls between classrooms but these were value-engineered out of the project;
  - The laminate on the casework at Fairview Park was a similar color to the walls and seemed to blend in and the rooms appeared larger than at Lakewood;
  - The sinks being at different heights for the different ages was well-liked;
  - The stairwells at Fairview Park had nice railings/panels;
  - The playground at Fairview Park was not sympathetic to Special needs. The equipment was not accessible, the rubber "mulch" would make the wheelchairs get stuck, even though there was a ramp to provide access. However the outdoor water-fountain was a good feature;
  - Adequate faculty restrooms (size and location) so that teachers could use them in a very short space of time;
  - Cafeteria tables and chairs were far preferable to the tables with fixed seats. The ones with fixed seats were not conducive to wheelchair access either.
  - Access to the serving lines seemed tight for the motorized wheelchairs as they have a wide base;
  - Some people felt that the Olmstead Falls school looked very "institutional" from the outside.
- The committee then broke up into groups to review and provide input on the one proposed internal zoning of the building that was presented by R. King. Comments included:
    - Concerns:
      - Should be more entries;



- Should be separate entry for students from buses?
  - Nurse/office should be closer to playground
  - Need separate space in the Library for teaching classes;
  - Plan in-classroom bathrooms accordingly for grade shift;
  - Another survey of teachers should be done as some felt uneasy with making decisions on behalf of all teachers;
  - Would there be staff lounges/workrooms on both floors?
  - Music room should be closer to the stage;
  - Number of entrances to stage;
  - Entrance in/out of kitchen (serving line) needs to be large enough for the wide-base mobility carts;
  - Student dining: could the gym be separate and not linked? Prefer having stage across from kitchen and not on same side;
  - Main entrance needs to be larger – more concrete and a covering for student line-up;
  - Extended care entrance/pre-school preferred – need a separate security system (6.00am – 6.30am start of program) and maybe a hallway between mechanical area and kitchen?
  - If in the future pre-school is in the building then need bathrooms in classrooms for pre-school and K. Also, pre-school playground equipment must be different from K-5 equipment;
  - Gym and cafeteria should have access to playground;
  - Stage and music should be attached;
  - Media center could be 2-story;
  - Need a solution to have windows in all classrooms;
  - Need to solve delivery access to kitchen;
  - Need to reduce length of walks for K-1 from bus area.
- Likes:
- Possibility of an enclosed courtyard. Green space could also be available for outdoor library/reading;
  - Administration in front – could it project forward of the façade?



- Library on one level;
  - Library – well located in the middle – could be 2 stories. Requires technology and instructional area;
  - 2 stories for the building;
  - Cafeteria close to buses so that students can wait indoors in inclement weather;
  - Most classrooms away from the playground;
  - Bathroom pods.
- Attached to these minutes is an alternative zoning diagram developed by one of the small groups.
  - The next meeting would be at 4.00pm on May 12 at Berea High School Media Center.

The preceding is GPD Associates interpretation of the meeting. Any changes, additions, or clarifications should be forwarded to our office as soon as possible. Unless these changes are furnished within ten (10) working days, it will be understood that all parties are in agreement with the preceding statements.

Respectfully submitted,  
GPD Associates  
Architects&Engineers&Planners  
520 South Main Street, Suite 2531  
Akron, Ohio 44311-1010  
(330) 572-2100 - Phone      (330) 572-2102 – Fax

